

## Attachment M

<b>Use Group:</b>	Children and young people
<b>Use(s):</b>	N. Skate and BMX parks / tracks

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Summaries of the key findings from this assessment are provided in the main Community Infrastructure Needs Analysis Key Findings & Recommendations report.

Detailed assessment results are provided in Part B to this report. Where available, Building Condition audits and Fitness for Purpose assessments that have informed the Suitability Assessment may be requested directly from Moorabool Shire Council.

### Definition(s):

#### BMX park or track:

Purpose-built surfaces or equipment intended for BMX riding or racing.

#### Skate park:

Purpose-built surfaces or equipment intended for skateboarding.

## Notes

### *Revision and update of the Quantity Standards*

The Quantity Standards are directly informed by the current levels of public use that existing facilities receive. This is because Council cannot reasonably determine Quantity Standards without first understanding how well, or how poorly, existing facilities are used.

## Existing infrastructure

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The following facilities within Moorabool Shire were recorded through the Community Infrastructure Audit and assessed for this report:

Facility	Owner	Operator
Ballan Recreation Reserve skate park	State Government	Committee of Management
Darley Park BMX 'pump' track	Council	Council
Rotary Park skate park, Bacchus Marsh	Council	Council
Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Recreation Reserve BMX race track (under construction)	Council	Council

**Table N1: Existing infrastructure (within Moorabool Shire)**

No facilities outside of the Shire were recorded as none are considered close enough to provide for Moorabool residents.

## Quantity Assessment findings

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### **Purpose**

*A strategic assessment to determine whether there are enough facilities in relation to population size.*

The Quantity Assessment determines whether there is currently a suitable and sufficient quantity of services or facilities to meet the needs of the population of an area. It seeks to identify any under or over-provision that exists now and, using Council's population forecasts, may exist in the future.

### *Note regarding notation:*

- *The needs analyses generally uses whole integers when referring to undersupply or oversupply. This is because it is often not possible in reality to provide fractions of facilities. The actual modelling used by Council uses 1 decimal place. Demand for 0.5 of a facility or greater has been rounded up to a figure of '1'.*
- *Figures that refer to an undersupply are prefixed with '-' and oversupply prefixed with '+'.*
- *The name 'Bacchus Marsh and Surrounds' refers to the urban areas of Darley, Bacchus Marsh and Maddingley.*

### **The Quantity Standard**

*Ballan is deemed to be the smallest population that can reasonably support either skate or BMX facilities. Therefore, the trigger population for both have been set as 500 people aged 10-30 years.*

*However, insufficient utilisation data was available to determine a meaningful Quantity Standard for either skate or BMX facilities (i.e. the largest population that a single facility can serve). For now, this assessment simply works on the basis that the individual populations of Ballan, Darley, central Bacchus Marsh and Maddingley are all large enough to support 1 skate or BMX facility.*

### **Findings of the Quantity Assessment**

#### Small towns and rural areas:

- No small towns in the Shire exceed the population trigger for either skate or BMX facilities of 500 people aged 10-30 years.

#### Ballan:

- Ballan is the smallest town that can support a BMX or skate facility, with a relatively small population of 793 10-39 year olds. That population is forecast to increase to 1,405 by 2041, which will still require only the 1 facility (from a quantity perspective).

#### Bacchus Marsh and Surrounds:

- The current populations of Darley, central Bacchus Marsh and Maddingley are each large enough to support a single skate or BMX facility.
- Until a better understanding of utilisation is developed, it is recommended that 3 facilities spread across Darley, Bacchus Marsh and Maddingley should be sufficient to meet demand up to 2041.

## Utilisation Assessment findings

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### **Purpose**

*Facility-specific assessments that determine whether services and facilities have adequate capacity to meet community demand.*

The Utilisation Assessment examines the current level of use of facilities and determines whether or not they have capacity to accommodate existing and/or increased use.

### **Findings of the Utilisation Assessment**

*Utilisation data was not available for skate or BMX facilities. As such, a Utilisation Assessment was not conducted.*

All that is known about current use of skate and BMX facilities is:

- Feedback from the Ballan Recreation Reserve Master Plan indicated that the Ballan skate facilities are valued within the Ballan community.
- The Bacchus Marsh BMX Club has a membership base of approximately 90 at the moment, however they are optimistic that the new BMX track at the Bacchus Marsh Racecourse Recreation Reserve will help grow this number significantly.
- The *Recreation & Leisure Strategy 2015-2021* identified BMX riding as a 'popular activity with high participation' in Bacchus Marsh

## Travel Accessibility Assessment findings

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### Purpose

*A strategic assessment to determine whether people can travel to services and facilities within a reasonable journey time.*

The Travel Accessibility Assessment examines the geographic distribution of existing facilities and their relationship to public transport (train station and bus stops) and car parking. It assesses whether facilities are accessible within a reasonable journey distance or time from where people live and identifies any significant spatial gaps in provision.

### The Travel Standard: Library (centre-based)

#### Standards

used: *Population trigger: 500 persons aged 10-30 within a 10 minute cycle ride (3 km)*  
*All settlements: 10 minute cycle ride (3 km)*

#### Rationale:

*The Travel Standards have been informed by various factors:*

- *The geographic distribution of existing facilities and their distance from people.*
- *Minimum populations required to support viable services and facilities.*
- *Council and other service providers' financial ability to deliver and maintain a network of services and facilities.*

Skate and BMX facilities are treated by this assessment as local facilities that users primarily or even exclusively ride or skate to. As such, drive time standard has not been set for small towns and rural areas.

### Findings of the Travel Accessibility Assessment

*Detailed results of the Travel Accessibility Assessment are provided in Part B to this report. Summary results are shown in **Table N2** and **Map N1** below.*

#### Small towns and rural areas:

- As the Travel Standard is set to '10 minute cycle ride (3 km)' and all small towns and rural areas have populations below the trigger population set by the Quantity Assessment, the results show that none have access to skate or BMX facilities.

#### Ballan:

- Ballan meets the Travel Standard for skate parks as the whole of Ballan township is within a 3km ride of the Recreation Reserve. However, as the Reserve is at the far west end of town, a more central location within Ballan would be preferable.
- The current skate park is not ideally designed for BMX use. As recommended by the Suitability Assessment, any future upgrade to or replacement of the park should be designed to suit skateboards and BMXs. This would provide better travel accessibility to both facility types.

Bacchus Marsh and Surrounds:

- Map N1 shows that the 3km travel catchments around each suggest:
  - Most of Darley has access to BMX but not skate, with only the far north beyond 3kms from either;
  - Central Bacchus Marsh has access to skate only, but western Bacchus Marsh does not;
  - West Maddingley will have access to the new track at the Racecourse Reserve only, while eastern Maddingley has access to Rotary Park skate park only.
  - There is very little overlap in the catchments with access to both skate and BMX.

	Population within range <sup>1</sup>	Travel Standard	Standard met/failed	Comments
Balliang	<100	10 minute cycle ride (3 km)	x	No small towns have populations large enough to support local skate or BMX facilities and none are within a 3km ride of facilities in Ballan, Bacchus Marsh or Ballarat.
Balliang East	100-200		x	
Barkstead	<100		x	
Blackwood	200-500		x	
Bungaree	100-200		x	
Clarendon	100-200		x	
Dales Creek	200-500		x	
Dunnstown	200-500		x	
Elaine	<100		x	
Gordon	500-2000		x	
Greendale	500-2000		x	
Hopetoun Park	500-2000		x	
Korweinguboora	200-500		x	
Lal Lal	200-500		x	
Morrisons	<100		x	
Mt Egerton	200-500		x	
Mt Wallace	<100		x	
Myrniong	200-500		x	
Navigators	200-500	x		
Wallace	200-500	x		
Yendon	200-500	x		

**Table N2: results of the Travel Accessibility Assessment for small towns**

x Travel Standard failed

*Gap analysis results (Travel Accessibility Assessment) - maps*

The following maps are provided in Part B to this report ('Detailed assessment data'):

**Map N1: Travel Accessibility Assessment results for 'Skate and BMX parks / tracks'**

<sup>1</sup> Travel Standards have been assigned to small towns according to population ranges. As larger populations can support a wider range of services and facilities, travel distance / time standards are generally less (i.e. better) for larger settlements. For more information regarding this methodology refer to the Moorabool Community Infrastructure Planning Process on Council's website.

## Suitability Assessment findings

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### **Purpose**

*Facility-specific assessments that determine whether facilities are fit for their purpose and in adequate physical condition.*

The Suitability Assessment seeks to determine how suitable facilities are in terms of supporting the services or community activities delivered through them. The Suitability Assessment has two components: building condition and fitness for purpose.

### **Findings of the Suitability Assessment**

Specialist skills and safety criteria are required to assess the condition and fitness for purpose of skate and BMX facilities. As such, in-house Suitability Assessments were not developed for skate and BMX facilities and therefore the Suitability Assessment was not conducted.

However, a key factor relating to suitability that has informed this needs assessment and the development of recommendations is that where possible, ‘park’ facilities that are suitable for both skate and BMX are preferable to those that are suitable for skate or BMX alone. This only applies to hard surface (e.g. steel / concrete) parks like the ones at Ballan and Rotary Park; it does not apply to packed earth BMX race tracks such as Darley Park and BM Racecourse Recreation Reserve.

Where financial constraints prevent the provision of both skate and BMX facilities, dual-use skate/BMX parks should be considered as a means of meeting the needs of both user groups.

#### Small towns and rural areas:

*No facilities*

#### Ballan:

- A professional assessment of the Ballan skate park was conducted in July 2018 to inform future planning for the Recreation Reserve. The assessment assessed the condition of the skate park as poor, with a lifespan remaining of less than 5 years.
- As a result of the assessment, Council and the Committee of Management are currently exploring options to remove and relocate the park elsewhere in Ballan.
- The current park is designed primarily for use by skaters but its steel and concrete construction means it can be used (and is used) by BMX riders.

#### Bacchus Marsh and Surrounds:

- The current population of 10-30 year olds in Darley (2,681) is larger than the current populations of either Bacchus Marsh (1,860) or Maddingley (1,115). Yet, the Darley Park BMX ‘pump’ track is only a small facility designed to serve a local community. It is understood that the facility is utilised but not as much as either the Ballan or Rotary Park skate facilities.
- The Rotary Park skate park is the largest and most well used of all the BMX/skate parks. It is designed primarily for use by skaters but its steel and concrete construction means it can be used (and is used) by BMX riders.
- The new BMX race track at the BM Racecourse Recreation Reserve will be of ‘regional’ size and has been designed for competition use.